



Fact Sheet

HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING ON MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CONSERVANCY LAND

MVC LAND IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING

All land owned by the Mississippi Valley Conservancy is open to the public. Hunting, trapping and fishing are permitted on all lands owned by Mississippi Valley Conservancy [to the extent such activities are not contrary to state law or local ordinances](#). **MVC has opened up about 4,000 acres of formerly private land to public recreation, including hunting,** through the generosity of MVC members, as well as the DNR's Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund, grants from private foundations and private donations.



MVC recognizes that hunting is an important wildlife management tool, and the excise tax dollars generated from the sale of guns, ammunition and outdoor equipment has benefited natural habitats for all wildlife species.

Here is a list of properties permanently protected by MVC that are open to hunting, trapping and fishing, [subject to applicable state laws and local ordinances, which in some cases prohibit the discharge of firearms and/or bows](#):

- Angel Bluff (Fountain City, Buffalo County) – 20 acres
- Apple Valley Bluff (Town of Onalaska, La Crosse County) – 20 acres
- Borah Creek Prairie State Natural Area, (Fennimore, Grant County)
- Boscobel Bluffs (Boscobel, Grant County) – 389 acres
- Cassville Bluffs State Natural Area, (Cassville, Grant County) – 244 acres
- Devil's Backbone State Natural Area (Bagley/Glen Haven, Grant County) – 126 acres
- Eagle Eye State Natural Area (Vernon County) – 70 acres
- Fish Creek, (Bangor, La Crosse County) – 75 acres
- Greens Coulee (La Crosse County, part subject to City of Onalaska ordinances – city permit is required) – 81 acres
- Holland Sand Prairie State Natural Area (Holmen, La Crosse County) – 61 acres
- Kickapoo Bottoms (Gays Mills, Crawford County) – 85 acres
- La Crosse Blufflands (Town of Shelby & Medary and City of La Crosse) – 882 acres
- La Crosse River Conservancy (City of La Crosse & Onalaska, La Crosse County Bow only) – 212 acres
- McDowell Bluff (De Soto, Crawford County) – 14 acres
- New Amsterdam Grasslands (Holmen, La Crosse County) – 310 acres (Note: restrictions during grassland bird nesting season)
- Romance Woods (Romance, Vernon County) – 35 acres
- Sugar Creek Bluff State Natural Area (Ferryville, Crawford County, part subject to village ordinance restrictions) – 276 acres
- Trempealeau Lakes (Trempealeau, Trempealeau County) – 53 acres
- Tunnelville Cliffs State Natural Area (La Farge, Vernon County) – 1,268 acres
- Water's Edge Woods (Black River Falls, Jackson County) – 21 acres

Private properties with conservation easements only – no hunting

Please note that when MVC acquires a *conservation easement* on private property (in contrast with properties where MVC is the owner), the land owner generally controls hunting and access issues. **Conservation easement properties are not open to public access unless otherwise designated.**



For any land you intend to hunt or fish on, please verify the requirements or restrictions of any applicable ordinances, and verify the ownership and boundaries of adjacent properties. It is critically important that people not trespass onto neighboring properties while utilizing MVC lands. See the *NRA Hunter's Code of Ethics* at www.nrahq.org/hunting/nraethics.asp for further guidance.

Tree Stands:

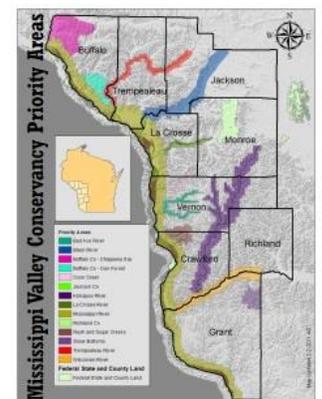
Tree stands, tree steps and ground blinds must be removed from MVC-owned lands at the close of hunting hours each day. MVC reserves the right to remove tree stands and hunting blinds left unattended on MVC land.

Maps:

Maps of MVC properties can be found online or picked up at the MVC office in La Crosse
www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org/landconservation/naturepreserves.aspx

Videos:

Check out MVC's online videos at
www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org/digdeeper/videos.aspx



SUMMARY OF EXCEPTIONS & RESTRICTIONS FOR HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS

Mississippi Valley Conservancy seeks to maximize opportunities for low-impact outdoor recreational activities on MVC-owned lands to the extent those activities do not adversely affect the ecology of the properties or violate state law or local ordinances.

CERTAIN PROPERTIES HAVE HUNTING RESTRICTED DUE TO LOCAL ORDINANCES OR OTHER CONSIDERATIONS. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, AS A HUNTER, TO KNOW WHAT LAWS APPLY TO YOUR ACTIVITIES AND TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE WITHIN THE APPLICABLE PROPERTY BOUNDARIES. MVC DOES NOT AND CANNOT GUARANTEE THE STATUS OF APPLICABLE SEASONS, LAWS AND ORDINANCES. ALWAYS VERIFY APPLICABLE LAWS WITH THE DNR AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS. HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING ON MVC LAND IS AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Following are some restrictions on the discharge of firearms and bows that MVC is aware of:

Sugar Creek Bluff State Natural Area, (Ferryville, Crawford County) – 276 acres

Portions of the land are located within the Village of Ferryville, where the discharge of guns is prohibited, but bow hunting is allowed. It is your responsibility to determine the location of municipal boundaries.

La Crosse Blufflands and La Crosse River Conservancy Projects – 1,099 acres

MVC has protected approximately 16 bluffland and wetland tracts of land which are within either the townships of Shelby or Medary or the Cities of La Crosse or Onalaska. **Tracts marked with an * are owned by the City of La Crosse and protected by a MVC conservation easement.** **For more information about allowed uses, contact the City of La Crosse Parks & Rec Department at 608-789-7533**

MVC lands located in Town of Medary include:

Lenox Tract *	Skemp I Tract *
Mathy Tract *	Skemp II Tract*
Gerrard-Staff Tract *	Mathy II Tract *
Fitzpatrick Tract *	Beck Tract*

*Town of Medary Ordinance 6.01 provides that no person shall shoot or discharge or carry uncased any firearm in or within 1,000 feet of any platted subdivision or assessor's plat in town of Medary; or within 500 feet of any residence or building inhabited by any person; or within any public park or public area.

MVC lands located in the Town of Shelby: Welch*, Hoeschler and La Crosse Floral Tracts

MVC lands within City of La Crosse include:

Hass Tract*	Frank Tract
Dobson Tract*	Part of La Crosse River Conservancy
Juniper Partners Tract*	

The City of La Crosse amended its firearm discharge ordinance (7.01) to allow hunting on designated properties. Visit www.cityoflacrosse.org/index.aspx?NID=1930 for a copy of the ordinance and a map.

City of Onalaska Properties: Portions of Greens Coulee (MVC's Elmwood Tract and part of MVC's Savannah Oaks Tract) and parts of La Crosse River Conservancy are located in the City of Onalaska. Onalaska allows bow hunting of deer under certain circumstances. A permit is required. Visit www.cityofonalaska.com, go to the Parks & Rec section, and then click the Urban Deer Management link for more information.

New Amsterdam Grasslands – 310 acres: The entire preserve is open to the public throughout the year except during the bird nesting season during the months of May, June and July. During these months, only the southwest 40-acre portion of the preserve will be open to the public (map available from MVC). All legal hunting and trapping will be allowed in open portions of the preserve. Fall bird hunting will be allowed on the entire preserve. Due to the desire to maintain a remnant population of Northern Bobwhite on the property, bird hunters will be asked to voluntarily refrain from shooting that species. Use of dogs for hunting or training is not allowed. The Town of Holland currently allows deer and small game hunting and trapping on the property.